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Those who are pure in heart (lesson three, this *Defender*), automatically become peacemakers, for they desire to live at peace with all men.

Peacemakers are those who possess a strong and hearty affection toward peace and strive, at all times, to maintain good will toward all. The making of peace is sometimes a thankless office, and it is the lot of him who parts a fray to have blows on both sides.

Our verse reminds us that such persons are blessed; for they have the satisfaction of enjoying themselves, by keeping the peace, and of being truly serviceable to others, by disposing them to peace. They are working together with Christ.

Our verse also reminds us that such persons shall be known as the children of God. He owns them as such, for herein they will resemble Him.

He is the God of peace; the Son of God is the Prince of peace; the spirit of adoption is a Spirit of peace.

The peacemaker is the preserver of life, prosperity and happiness. He is not easily offended, and puts forth much exertion to reconcile contending parties. Their greatest efforts are toward reconciling sinners to God.

The Key Fact: Peace With God Is Essential

A great deal of shallow talk has been broadcast about peace. In the shadow of an atomic age which threatens the extinction of life itself, many extravagant statements have been made by politicians and news broadcasters.

It has become commonplace to declare: "The most desirable thing in the world is peace." Such a reckless ex-

aggeration needs to be countered by an equally extravagant overstatement: "The most undesirable thing in the world is peace."

Everything depends upon those with whom you would make peace and upon what terms.

The most undesirable thing in the world is peace with the devil. It is a wild dream for man to imagine that he can make peace with the devil upon anything less than the devil's terms. This is the will-o-the-wisp which the devil uses to lure man to his destruction.

One of the perennial delusions from which man suffers is the fancy that he has the choice between peace and war. No such choice is offered to man. He has the choice of deciding with whom and against whom he will fight.

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